

# PRESS RELEASE

## House Armed Services Committee Bob Stump, Chairman

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### HOUSE APPROVES NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

*H.R. 4546 continues Congress' commitment to defending the homeland,  
supporting military personnel, and preparing for war.*

Today, the House endorsed H.R. 4546, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003, on a bipartisan 359 to 58 vote. Upon final passage, Chairman Bob Stump (R-AZ) issued the following statement:

“Today, the House of Representatives made good on its commitment to make the homeland safe, support America’s military personnel, and prepare for an extended war against terrorism. This bipartisan bill recognizes that we are a nation at war, and provides the manpower, the equipment, and the technology that the United States military needs to successfully conduct the War Against Terrorism.

“H.R. 4546 also supports our nation’s service members and their families. By increasing military pay and bonuses, enhancing benefits, and improving military living and working facilities, this bill recognizes the importance of America’s soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines to the strength of the United States military.

“Although H.R. 4546 makes significant progress in repairing the extraordinary damage done to our national defense by 13 consecutive years of defense budget cuts, it will take several more years of real increases to defense spending to complete the job. Nevertheless, I am encouraged by the strong endorsement of the House of Representatives today, and look forward to sending this important legislation to the President soon.”

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*H.R. 4546 authorizes \$383 billion in budget authority for fiscal year 2003, fully funding the President’s non-war budget request.*